Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended)   An e-mail communication method comprising the steps of:

inserting a voice communications identifier in an e-mail message sent from a sender at a sending node to a recipient at a receiving node, wherein said voice communications identifier comprises a selectable symbol for establishing voice communications by the recipient;

embedding within said voice communications identifier an executable voice communications link program code, said program code configured to execute within said receiving node to establish a voice communications link between said sending node and said receiving node, wherein said program code comprises a binary representation of a compiled object;

transmitting said e-mail message to said recipient; and,

responsive to said recipient selecting said voice communications identifier, establishing said voice communications link between said sender and said recipient

wherein, if said e-mail message is sent to a plurality of recipients, said inserting step comprises inserting a voice communications identifier comprising a plurality of

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selectable symbols, each symbol uniquely corresponding to one of the plurality of recipients, and wherein communications with one or more recipients can be established by selecting one or more corresponding ones of the plurality of selectable symbols.

2.   (Cancelled)

3.   (Previously Presented)   The e-mail communication method of claim 1, wherein said inserting step further comprises the step of inserting in said e-mail message a reference to said sender of said e-mail message.

4.   (Previously Presented)   The e-mail communication method of claim 1, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice communications identifier, executing said executable voice communications link program code in order to establish said voice communications link with said sender.

5.   (Previously Presented)   The e-mail communication method of claim 1, wherein said establishing step comprises the steps of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice communications identifier, determining a link address for said sender based on said reference, and executing said executable voice communications link program code at said

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receiving node in order to establish said voice communications link with said sender

according to said determined link address.

6.   (Original)   The e-mail communication method of claim 5, wherein said link

address is a telephone number.

7.   (Original)   The e-mail communication method of claim 5, wherein said link

address is an IP address.

8.   (Original)   The e-mail communication method of claim 1, wherein said

establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice

communications identifier, establishing a Voice over IP (VoIP) based voice

communications link with said recipient.

9.   (Original)   The e-mail communication method of claim 1, wherein said

establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice

communications identifier, establishing a telephony-based voice communications link

with said recipient over a public switched telephone network (PSTN).

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10.   (Currently Amended)   An e-mail communication method comprising the steps of:

detecting a voice communications identifier inserted in an e-mail message transmitted by a sender at a sending node to a recipient at a receiving node, said voice communications identifier comprises a selectable icon for establishing voice communications by the recipient and having embedded therein an executable voice communications link program code configured to execute within said receiving node to establish said voice communications link between said sending node and said receiving node, wherein said program code comprises a binary representation of a compiled object;

responsive to detecting said voice communications identifier, displaying [[a]] said selectable icon; and,

responsive to a selection of said icon, establishing a voice communications between said sender and said recipient

wherein, if said e-mail message is sent to a plurality of recipients, said detecting step comprises detecting a voice communications identifier comprising a plurality of selectable icons, each icon uniquely corresponding to one of the plurality of recipients, and wherein communications with one or more recipients can be established by selecting one or more corresponding ones of the plurality of selectable icons.

11.   (Previously Presented)   The e-mail communication method of claim 10,

wherein said establishing step comprises the steps of:

extracting said executable voice communications link program code from said

voice communications identifier to establish said voice communications link with said

sender; and,

responsive to said selection of said icon, executing said executable voice

communications link program code.

12.   (Original)   The e-mail communication method of claim 11, further comprising

the step of extracting an embedded reference to said sender from said e-mail message.

13.   (Previously Presented)   The e-mail communication method of claim 12,

wherein said executing step further comprises the steps of :

determining a link address for said sender based on said extracted reference; and,

executing said executable voice communications link program code in order to

establish said voice communications link with said sender according to said determined

link address.

14.   (Original)   The e-mail communication method of claim 13, wherein said link

address is a telephone number.

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15.   (Original)   The e-mail communication method of claim 13, wherein said link

address is an IP address.

16.   (Original)   The e-mail communication method of claim 10, wherein said

establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice

communications identifier, establishing a Voice over IP (VoIP) based voice

communications link with said recipient.

17.   (Original)   The e-mail communication method of claim 10, wherein said

establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice

communications identifier, establishing a telephony-based voice communications link

with said recipient over a public switched telephone network (PSTN).

18.   (Previously Presented)   The e-mail communications method of claim 11,

further comprising the steps of:

extracting embedded references to said sender and at least one other recipient of

said e-mail message, said embedded references being extracted form said e-mail

message; and,

displaying a corresponding selectable icon for each of said at least one other recipients.

19.   (Previously Presented)   The e-mail communication method of claim 18, further comprising the steps of:

responsive to a selection of one of said selectable icons, identifying a corresponding recipient and determining a link address for said corresponding recipient based on said extracted reference; and,

executing said executable voice communications link program code in order to establish said voice communications link with said corresponding recipient according to said determined link address.

20.   (Previously Presented)   The e-mail communication method of claim 18, further comprising the steps of :

responsive to a selection of two or more of said selectable icons, identifying a corresponding recipient for each selected icon and determining a link address for said corresponding recipients based on said extracted references; and,

executing said executable voice communications link program code in order to establish a conference call with said corresponding recipients according to said determined link addresses.

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21.   (Currently Amended)   A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

insering a voice communications identifier in an e-mail message from a sender to a recipient, said voice communications identifier comprising a selectable symbol for establishing voice communications by the recipient and having embedded therein executable voice communications link program code configured to execute within said receiving node to establish said voice communications link between said sending node and said receiving node, wherein said program code comprises a binary representation of a compiled object;

transmitting said e-mail message to said recipient; and,

responsive to said recipient selecting said voice communications identifier, establishing a voice communications link between said sender and said recipient

wherein, if said e-mail is sent to a plurality of recipients, said inserting step comprises inserting a voice communications identifier comprising a plurality of selectable symbols, each symbol uniquely corresponding to one of the plurality of recipients, and wherein communications with one or more recipients can be established by selecting one or more corresponding ones of the plurality of selectable symbols.

22.   (Cancelled)

23.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 21, wherein said inserting step further comprises the step of inserting in said e-mail message a reference to said sender of said e-mail message.

24.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 23, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice communications identifier, executing said executable voice communications link program code in order to establish said voice communications link with said sender.

25.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 23, wherein said establishing step comprises the steps of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice communications identifier, determining a link address for said sender based on said reference, and executing said executable voice communications link program code in order to establish said voice communications link with said sender according to said determined link address.

26.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 25, wherein said link address is a telephone number.

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27.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 25, wherein said link address is an IP address.

28.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 21, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice communications identifier, establishing a Voice over IP (VoIP) based voice communications link with said recipient.

29.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 21, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice communications identifier, establishing a telephony-based voice communications link with said recipient over a public switched telephone network (PSTN).

30.   (Currently Amended)   A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

detecting a voice communications identifier inserted in an e-mail message transmitted by a sender at a sending node to a recipient at a receiving node, said voice

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communications identifier comprising a selectable icon for establishing voice

communications by the recipient;

responsive to detecting said voice communications identifier, displaying [[a]] said

selectable icon; and,

responsive to a selection of said icon, extracting a voice communications link

program code embedded within said voice communications identifier and establishing a

voice communications link between said recipient and said sender by executing said

voice communications link program code at said receiving node, wherein said program

code comprises a binary representation of a compiled object

wherein, if said e-mail is sent to a plurality of recipients, said detecting step

comprises detecting a voice communications identifier comprising a plurality of

selectable icons, each icon uniquely corresponding to one of the plurality of recipients,

and wherein communications with one or more recipients can be established by selecting

one or more corresponding ones of the plurality of selectable icons.

31.   (Cancelled)

32.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 30, further

comprising the step of extracting an embedded reference to said sender from said e-mail

message.

33.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 32, wherein said executing step further comprises the steps of:

determining a link address for said sender based on said extracted reference; and,

executing said voice communications link program code in order to establish said voice communications link with said sender according to said determined link address.

34.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 33, wherein said link address is a telephone number.

35.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 33, wherein said link address is an IP address.

36.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 30, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice communications identifier, establishing a Voice over IP (VoIP) based voice communications link with said recipient.

37.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 30, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of responsive to said recipient selecting said voice

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communications identifier, establishing a telephony-based voice communications link with said recipient over a public switched telephone network (PSTN).

38.   (Currently Amended)   The e-mail communications method of claim [[31]] 30, further comprising the steps of:

extracting embedded references to said sender and at least one other recipient of said e-mail message, said embedded references being extracted from said e-mail message; and,

displaying a corresponding selectable icon for each of said at least one other recipients.

39.   (Previously Presented))   The machine readable storage of claim 38, further comprising the steps of:

responsive to a selection of one of said selectable icons, identifying a corresponding recipient and determining a link address for said corresponding recipient based on said extracted reference; and,

executing said voice communications link program code in order to establish said voice communications link with said corresponding recipient according to said determined link address.

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40.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 38, further comprising the steps of:

responsive to a selection of two or more of said selectable icons, identifying a corresponding recipient for each selected icon and determining a link address for said corresponding recipients based on said extracted references; and,

executing said voice communications link program code in order to establish a conference call with said corresponding recipients according to said determined link addresses.

41.   (Currently Amended)   An electronic message article of manufacture conveyed by a sender from a sending node to a recipient at a recipient node in a computer communications network comprising:

a message header component encapsulating a reference to at least one of a sending node in the network and a recipient node in the network, said message header further containing a selectable icon for establishing voice communications by the recipient;

a text message component encapsulating message text which can be extracted from the electronic message and displayed in a message client; and,

an executable voice communications link program code configured to establish a voice communications link between said sending and recipient nodes by executing within said recipient node, wherein said program code comprises a binary representation of a

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compiled object <u>and wherein said program codes executes in response to selecting said</u>

<u>selectable icon</u>

<u>wherein, if said electronic message article of manufacture is sent to a plurality of</u>

<u>recipients, said message contains a plurality of selectable icons, each icon uniquely</u>

<u>corresponding to one of the plurality of recipients, and wherein communications with one</u>

<u>or more recipients can be established by selecting one or more corresponding ones of the</u>

<u>plurality of selectable icons</u>.

42.   (Original)   The electronic message article of manufacture of claim 41, wherein

said voice communications link is a Voice over IP (VoIP) based communications link.

43.   (Original)   The electronic message article of manufacture of claim 42, wherein

said voice communications link is a telephony-based link.

44.   (Currently Amended)   An e-mail client comprising:

a conventional e-mail processor, said conventional e-mail processor extracting and

displaying message text encapsulated in an e-mail conveyed by a sender to a recipient in

a data communications network; and,

a voice conversation processor, said voice conversation processor identifying a

voice communications link identifier <u>comprising a selectable symbol for establishing</u>

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voice communications by the recipient and encapsulated in said received e-mail,

displaying [[a]] said selectable icon in response to detecting said voice communications

link identifier and, responsive to a selection of said selectable icon, establishing a voice

communications link between said recipient and said sender of said received e-mail by

executing an executable voice communications link program code embedded in said link

identifier, wherein said program code comprises a binary representation of a compiled

object

wherein said voice conversation processor is further configured to identify and

display a plurality of selectable icons if said e-mail is sent to a plurality of recipients,

each icon uniquely corresponding to one of the plurality of recipients, and wherein

communications with one or more recipients can be established by selecting one or more

corresponding ones of the plurality of selectable icons.

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